

## CLAIMS

1. A lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine, which comprises a lubricant base oil comprising a mineral oil and/or a synthetic oil, (A) 0.001 to 0.5% by mass of an ester of boric acid in terms of boron element therein and (B) 0.01 to 5% by mass of an ashless antioxidant, wherein said composition contains substantially no metal salts of dithiophosphoric acid and has a sulfur content of 0.2% by mass or less, each percentage being based on a total mass of the composition.
2. The lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine according to claim 1, wherein a total aromatic content and a sulfur content in the lubricating base oil are adjusted to 10% by mass or less and 0.05% by mass or less, respectively.
3. The lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine according to claim 1 or 2, which comprises (C) 0.005 to 1% by mass of metal-based detergent in terms of metal element therein, based on the total mass of the composition.
4. The lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine according to claim 3, wherein a metal ratio of the component (C) is 3 or less.
5. The lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the component (C) is a metal-based detergent which contains substantially no sulfur.

6. The lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine according to any one of claims 1 to 5, which comprises (D) 0.05 to 0.4% by mass of an ashless dispersant in terms of nitrogen element therein, based on the total mass of the composition.

7. The lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which contains substantially no phosphorous, and has a sulfur content of 0.05% by mass or less, based on the total mass of the composition.

8. The lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine according to any one of claims 1 to 7, which is for an internal combustion engine using a fuel having a sulfur content of 50 ppm by mass or less.

9. A method for lubricating a valve train of an internal combustion engine, using a lubricating oil composition which comprises a lubricant base oil comprising a mineral oil and/or a synthetic oil, (A) 0.001 to 0.5% by mass of an ester of boric acid in terms of boron element therein and (B) 0.01 to 5% by mass of an ashless antioxidant, wherein said composition contains substantially no metal salts of dithiophosphoric acid and has a sulfur content of 0.2% by mass or less, each percentage being based on a total mass of the composition.

10. A method for improving long drain performance of a lubricating oil composition for an internal combustion engine, providing a lubricating oil composition which comprises a lubricant base oil comprising a mineral oil and/or a synthetic oil, (A) 0.001 to 0.5% by mass of an ester of boric acid in terms of boron element therein and (B) 0.01 to 5% by mass of an ashless antioxidant, wherein said composition contains substantially no metal salts of dithiophosphoric acid and has a sulfur content of 0.2% by mass or less, each percentage being based on a total mass of the composition.